

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A check valve, comprising:

a valve casing, the valve casing being formed with an inlet, a valve chest having a diameter larger than that of the inlet, and an outlet;

an annular valve seat formed between the inlet and the valve chest;

a valve element disposed within the valve chest to open and close the annular valve seat;

a valve stem projectingly provided on an inlet side of the valve element; and

a guide member with which an outer periphery of the valve stem is in sliding contact, wherein:

the guide member is provided at inner ends of ribs that project into the valve chest from an inner wall of the inlet, and

a recess is formed in the valve element to receive therein the ribs projecting into the valve chest and to receive the guide member.